

and have killed our enemies, a number equal to that of the hostages I should be decidedly in favor of giving up the latter, but upon no other terms.

Any reasonable expence that you may incur in getting them to strike a blow upon the enemy, will be paid by the Government, and they shall further be well supported with ammunition &c., but it must be distinctly understood, that professions only, are not to be relied upon, half-way measures must be abandoned. We must take a firm ground and make them feel what we will do. They must not permit the Kickapoos to reside with them.

FORSYTH TO EDWARDS.

FORT CLARK, May 29, 1814.

According to your instructions, I sent for Gomo¹ and other chiefs from the head of the [Peoria] lake, and informed them of the necessity of striking a blow against our enemies: and until that was done, their friends which are now at Belle Fountain as hostages, would not be delivered up.

Gomo asked me, if I had delivered his talk which he gave me last month: I told him I had. He then enquired what the answer was. I told him, there was no answer sent. He (Gomo) then told me that it was impossible for them to make war with tomahawks alone, and observed that all the Potawatomie hostages that was given to Gen. [William H.] Harrison have been liberated, and says he knows nothing about the second article of the armistice wherein it says that they, the Potawatomies and others were to make war against the enemies of the U. States.

Gomo says that [Col. Robert] Dickson has gone back towards Mackinaw, that an armament was ready to leave Detroit some time ago, to go up and take Mackinaw, but on hearing of a very large British force arriving near Detroit

¹ In November, 1810, Gomo, "chief of a band of Pottawatomies," gave information to Indian Agent William Clark, at St. Louis, of murders committed by two men of his nation.—(*The Edwards Papers*, p. 57.) See also, *ante*, p. 290.—ED.